

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A construction panel comprising:

(a) an upper portion; and

(b) a lower portion, said lower portion comprising a plurality of vertically extending members wherein each of said vertically extending member is an appropriate size and shape to provide the appearance of a shingle, shake or a tile;

wherein the panel comprises:

(a) (i) from about 40 percent to 75 percent natural plant fiber; and

(b) (ii) from about 20 percent to 60 percent of a synthetic polymer;

~~(c) up to about 3 percent coupling agent;~~

~~(d) up to about 1 percent of UV stabilizer;~~

~~(e) up to about .5 percent antioxidant;~~

~~(f) up to about 2 percent pigment;~~

~~(g) up to about 5 percent fungicide; and~~

~~(h) up to about 20 percent flame retardant retardent.~~

2. (Original) The panel of claim 1 wherein the plurality of members have non-uniform width, non-uniform length, or both non-uniform width and non-uniform length.

3. (Original) The panel of claim 1, wherein the plurality of vertically extending members further comprise non-uniform lower edges.

4. (Original) The panel of claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the panel further comprises a textured surface.

5. (Original) The panel of claim 4, wherein the textured surface replicates the appearance of a material selected from the group consisting of wood, clay, ceramic, slate, tile and combinations thereof.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The panel of claim 1, wherein the fiber is selected from the group consisting of wood flour, sugar cane bagasse, hemp, coconut coir, jute, kenaf, sisal, flax, coir pith, rice-hulls and cotton, and combinations thereof.

8. (Original) The panel of claim 1, wherein the polymeric material is polyethylene, polypropylene and combinations thereof.

9. (Original) The panel of claim 8 wherein the polyethylene is selected from low density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene and linear high density polyethylene.

10. (Original) The panel of claim 1 wherein adjacent members of the plurality of vertically extending members are connected together by a web of material.

Claims 11-19: Cancelled

20. (Previously presented) The construction panel of claim 1, wherein the panel comprises from about 50 to about 70 percent natural plant fiber and from about 20 to about 40 percent of a synthetic polymer.

21. (New) The construction panel of claim 1, wherein the panel further comprises:

(iii) up to about 3 percent coupling agent;

(iv) up to about 0.5 percent antioxidant;

- (v) up to about 2 percent pigment;
- (vi) up to about 5 percent fungicide;
- (vii) up to about 10 percent inorganic filler; and
- (viii) up to about 20 percent flame retardant retardent.

22. (New) The construction panel of claim 1, wherein the panel is a homogenous composition.

23. (New) The panel of claim 1, wherein the construction panel has an impact rating of class 3 or 4 under UL standard 2218.

24. (New) The panel of claim 1, wherein the construction panel has a class A, B, or C fire classification UL standard 790.

25. (New) The panel of claim 1 wherein the plurality of members have uniform widths and lengths

26. (New) The panel of claim 1 wherein the panel has two to seven vertically extending members.

27. (New) The panel of claim 1 wherein panel is up to about six feet by four feet.

28. (New) A construction panel comprising:

(a) an upper portion; and

(b) a lower portion, said lower portion comprising a plurality of vertically extending members wherein each of said vertically extending member is an appropriate size and shape to provide the appearance of a shingle, shake or a tile;

wherein the panel is constructed of a material comprising:

(i) a natural plant fiber; and

(ii) a synthetic polymer.

29. (New) A method of manufacturing the panel of claim 1, comprising:

(a) mixing a composition comprising:

(i) from about 40 percent to 75 percent natural fiber;

(ii) from about 20 percent to 60 percent of a polymeric material;

to form a homogenous mixture;

(b) placing the homogenous mixture in an open mold in the shape of the construction panel; and

(c) molding the homogenous mixture into the construction panel by compressing the homogenous mixture into the mold.